

2022 ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES REGISTRATION BOARD REPORT

The highlight of the year was the 60th jubilee of the formation of the Engineering Associates Registration Board. The celebration was held at Parliament and attended by our Minister (Dr Megan Woods), past and present Board Members and several Registered Engineering Associates. During the Minister's address she confirmed the REA credential will be carried forward into the planned Regulation of Occupational Engineers.

Five Board meetings were held in 2022 along with one Special Meeting. The increased meeting count reflects the activity undertaken preparing the Board's submission on the Regulation of Occupational Engineers. All existing Government appointed members were reappointed for a further term of two years.

The latest briefing from MBIE on progress with the Regulation of Occupational Engineers was, while legislation will be introduced to Parliament this year, it is unlikely to be passed into law before the election.

As noted last year, the Board's finances have been boosted by the increase in the annual registration fee. The viability prediction is now out to 2024-2025 FY. Whilst the increased annual registration fee did raise the number of resignations, the numbers of applications for registration are increasing. It is thought this is in preparation for the introduction of mandatory Regulation of Occupational Engineers.

The Board has also been approached by the Electrical Inspectors Association enquiring what is required to enable their membership to become Registered Engineering Associates. The Board is working through the detail but, with 455 members, it would provide a welcome boost to the coffers.

Engineering New Zealand and the Board are maintaining a dialogue on the impact of the Regulation of Occupational Engineers as it is likely Engineering New Zealand will perform registration functions. A particular focus is their 400+ Technical and Technologist Members.

As always, drop me an e-mail or give me a call if you have any thoughts or concerns you would like me to take to the Board table.

Bruce Hurley

NZEI Nominee on the Engineering Associates Registration Board